

## Lectionary Readings

### Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Candlemass

Reading 1: Malachi 3:1-5  
Reading 2: Hebrews 2:14-end  
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

### Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>

Psalm: 1  
Reading 1: Genesis 18:1-15  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:11-26

### Tue 3<sup>rd</sup>

Psalm: 5  
Reading 1: Genesis 18:16-end  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:27-44

### Wed 4<sup>th</sup>

Psalm: 119:1-32  
Reading 1: Genesis 19:1-3,12-29  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:45-56

### Thu 5<sup>th</sup>

Psalm: 15  
Reading 1: Genesis 21:1-21  
Reading 2: Matthew 27:57-end

### Holy Communion Readings

Reading 1: 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12  
Reading 2: Mark 6:7-13

### Fri 6<sup>th</sup>

Psalm: 19  
Reading 1: Genesis 22:1-19  
Reading 2: Matthew 28:1-15

### Sat 7<sup>th</sup>

Psalm: 23  
Reading 1: Genesis 23  
Reading 2: Matthew 28:16-end

### Sun 8<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

Reading 1: Genesis 1:1 – 2:3  
Reading 2: Romans 8:18-25  
Gospel: Matthew 6:25-end

### Wanlip Readings

Reading 1: Romans 8:18-25  
Reading 2: Matthew 6:25-end  
Psalm: 136

**1<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

### Collect for Candlemas

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### Post Communion Prayer for Candlemas

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

**This week we are grateful for....**

The snowdrops around Birstall and Wanlip

## Additional Notices for the Week

### **The Little Big Band with an Irish Tea - 6<sup>th</sup> February**

At St James on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 1:30pm till 4pm. £5.00 per ticket. A blend of popular tunes and hymns from Eileen Mosedale and her fellow musicians.

### **Monday Group – 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Forget about the housework and ironing, come and join us at our meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February and enjoy a Magical Mystery Tour with Peter Fox, a member of the magic circle. All Welcome. 2:30pm at St James community area.

### **February's Wednesday Communion followed by lunch – 18<sup>th</sup> February**

The next Wednesday lunchtime communion at St James will be on Ash Wednesday (18<sup>th</sup> February) at 12:30pm.

### **Ash Wednesday Services**

As well as the above Wednesday communion, there will also be services in both churches on Ash Wednesday. 9:30am at Our Lady & St Nicholas and 7pm at St James.

### **Bring & Share Lunches**

Bring & Share lunches will take place at the Village Hall in Birstall on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 31<sup>st</sup> May, 30<sup>th</sup> August and 29<sup>th</sup> November. Please make a note in your diary.

### **8:30am Services**

The 8:30am service on 8<sup>th</sup> February will be the last one.

### **Leaflets**

The PCC has discussed leaflets that have been found in church. We have agreed that we cannot advertise for businesses as if something went wrong, we may be liable for advertising them. This does not apply to charities, mental health etc advertised by the NHS. If in doubt, please check with Amanda.

### **Annual Meeting (APCM) in May**

Could all groups, gatherings and committees who are connected in any way with the church (Birstall and Wanlip) kindly email their annual report for 2025 to Amanda (with a copy to me) by the end of February please. This includes Home Groups, Monday Group, Mothers' Union, Old Nick's Coffee Shop, Churches Together, Cedar Mews, Welcome Space, Sunday School, etc etc. If you have any queries, please ask either Amanda or myself. Thank you, Lynn

### **RBL Quiz night**

Several of us enjoy going to the quiz at the RBL on Wednesday evenings at 8:15pm. Please join us whenever you can. It's £1.50 per quizzer +£1 for non members. Text Amanda if you're coming just to double check we're going that evening. We can meet you outside if a bit nervous walking in alone - and who wouldn't be?!